Statement from "Resistance Conspiracy Case" Defendants
July, 1988

On May 11, 1988 we were indicted for seeking "to influence, change, and protest policies and practices of the United States government concerning various international and domestic matters through the use of violent and illegal means." The indictment charges us with conspiracy and abiding and abetting the bombing of a number of military and governmental buildings -- resulting in property damage, but no injuries to anyone.

What does "the policies and practices" refer to?

-- The U.S. practice of slaughtering thousands of Nicaraguan civilians through the Proxy contra army.
-- The U.S. invasion of Grenada, the first Black socialist non-aligned nation in this hemisphere.
-- The U.S. policy of establishing brutal dictatorships in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Chile that murder their own people to make their countries safe for U.S. investments.
-- 90 years of U.S. colonization of Puerto Rico.
-- The U.S. policy of aiding and abetting the racist governments of Israel and South Africa.
-- The centuries-old practice of racial genocide and oppression of Black, Puerto Rican, Mexican, Asian and Native American peoples here, and of promoting racism and racist violence.
-- The U.S. government's denial that Prisoners of War and political prisoners are held in U.S. jails, targeted for isolation and destruction.

Do we want to change these policies and practices?

Wholeheartedly. They violate every tenet of international law and decency. They cause death, destruction, poverty and suffering for millions. It is a disgrace that we, the people of the U.S., allow our government to pursue them. To do nothing is to become the tacit accomplices in these crimes and practices.

Each of us charged in this indictment has committed our life to fighting for social justice here and to extending solidarity to national liberation movements around the world. Each one of us has been involved in supporting the just struggle for the Vietnamese people, in fighting against the Ku Klux Klan and racist violence, in supporting the struggle for Black liberation/New Afrikan independence and for Puerto Rican independence. We have participated in and supported the movement for women's liberation, sought an end to gay and lesbian oppression. We have been anti-imperialist activists and organizers for many years.

This has been our life's work, and it had brought us into continuing conflict with the U.S. government. It had also linked us with the millions of people around the world who struggle for freedom and against exploitation. Fighting against poverty and oppression, and inspired by a vision of collective and personal liberation, people from South Africa to Palestine to Central America to the ghettos of the U.S. are struggling to change the conditions of their lives. With them we say, "No Justice, No Peace."

The U.S. government fears the growth of the anti-imperialist movement that we've helped to build over the past 20 years. We have been targeted by the F.B.I. for continuing harassment, surveillance, and imprisonment.

Each of us had been an anti-imperialist political prisoner for more than three years. We have been condemned to sentences as long as 70 years. Laura Whitehorn is

now the longest-held political prisoner in "preventive detention." We have battled cancer, psychological torture, and isolation, buried in the worst prisons in the U.S. along with hundreds of Black/New African, Puerto Rican, Native American and Northamerican political prisoners and Prisoners of War.

We are neither terrorists nor criminals. We are guilty of no criminal activity.

Now we face these new charges. They were brought more than three years and 14 prosecutions after the last of us was arrested. The charges are couched in language that target our politics and associates. The government makes no claim to know who actually did the bombings. The Reagan administration wants to stage a show trial that will not only have a chilling effect on activists here, but will also divert attention from the North/Poindexter trials going on down the hall from ours[note: the North/Poindexter trial has been postponed since the writing of this statement].

We will fight this politically-motivated indictment, but we expect no justice. We are each held in solitary confinement, unable to meet together or with our lawyers to prepare a defense. We are accused of acts of resistance against state terrorism by the U.S. government, acts which themselves caused no causalities, and are labeled "terrorists," forced to come to court draped in shackles, and displayed behind a bullet-proof plexiglass partition. North and Poindexter, whose actions merit a trial for war crimes and crimes against humanity, are called heroes by politicians, and come to court draped in the blessing of Ronald Reagan and with the benefit of millions of dollars from right-wing backers.

The government is relentless in its pursuit of those whose love and concern extend across national and racial barriers, and those whose commitment leads them to active resistance. That is why the Sanctuary and Plowshares movements have been targeted by the Reagan administration. That is why a group of Puerto Rican *independentistas* are now facing charges in Hartford, Connecticut. That is why a group of working class anti-imperialist activists currently face sedition charges in Hartford, Connecticut. That is why a New Afrikan Freedom Fighter, Dr. Mutulu Shakur, and one of us, Marilyn Buck, were recently tried in New York.

If political prisoners can be treated as less than human -- as outside the bounds of human decency -- how will other sectors of the political community be treated when their voices become too loud?

The Reagan Administration wants our prosecution to serve as a warning to those who demand justice and human rights.

We say as long as this government tramples on the rights, the lives, and the dignity of human beings here and anywhere else in the world, there will be always be resistance. That is not a criminal conspiracy -- it is a movement of solidarity and resistance, of love, and of hope.

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE!

"the state can have no case
there is no case
against freedom"
- Thulani Davis

From anti-imperialist political prisoners:

Alan Berkman
Marilyn Buck
Susan Rosenberg

Timothy Blunk
Linda Evans
Laura Whitehorn

Support Political Prisoners' Rights, Resistance Is Not A Crime!

What is the "Resistance Conspiracy Case"?

On May 25, 1988, six political activists- Laura Whitehorn, Dr Alan Berkman, Linda Evans, Susan Rosenberg, Marilyn Buck, and Tim Blunk- were arraigned in DC US District Court for conspiracy "to oppose, obstuct, or change the foreign and domestic policies of the US government through illegal and violent means." The defendants are accused specifically of conspiracy to carry out four bombings in the New York area and four in the Washington, DC area between 1982 and 1985. All of the bombing were of US government or military centers; all were carried out at night with ample warning to prevent casualties. Communiques accompanying the actions said that the bombings were expressions of solidarity with nations and peoples under attack by the US government and its surrogates. One of the bombings was of the US Capitol Building after the 1983 invasion of Grenada.

The men and women anti-imperialists facing trial have worked for the past twenty years for social change and justice, in solidarity movements, in the anti-war movement of the '60's, the womens' movement, the lesbian and gay rights movement, and against racism. Since the government makes no claim to know who actually did the bombings, the conspiracy charges clearly target the politics and associations of the prisoners.

What can we do to support these defendants?

The **Washington Area Political Prisoners' Support Committee** is a coalition of diverse organizations and individuals active in the movement for social justice and peace. We believe it is important to support these defendants based on their human, legal, and political rights, and that to allow the government to trample on the rights of these prisoners puts us all in jeopardy. We believe that it is the oppressive character of the government that calls for opposition in all of its forms, and that progressive people must vigorously defend one another from government repression (while carrying on the debate over strategies and tactics that is essential to uniting and strengthening the movement for social change).

There are many ways to get involved with this work. Invite us to your organization so that we can tell you more about the case and the work of the committee. We also need your financal support, to keep our committee functioning and for a literature fund for the defendants. You can also write or visit the defendants at the address below. By challenging this government railroad, we can show that activists will not allow themselves to be attacked in isolation from one another. Togeather, we can create an atmosphere of support for the prisoners as fellow workers.

Stop government interferance in the defendants' preparation for trial.
Remove the bulletproof wall and the surveillance cameras from the courtroom.
Stop government violations of the prisoners' basic human rights.
Drop this politically motivated-indictment.

Laura Whitehorn	220-858	Susan Rosenberg	233-412
Linda Evans	233-411	Timothy Blunk	233-410
Alan Berkman	233- 315	Marilyn Buck	233-396
DC City Jail	1901 D St., SE	Washington, DC 20003	

Write and show your support today.

NAME_____STREET_____

STATE_____ZIP_____PHONE(DAY/EVE)_____

_____ get involved _____ set up a house meeting (speakers available)

_____ receive mailings _____ donation enclosed

Washington Area Political Prisoners' Support Committee - PO Box 28191 - Washington, DC 20038-8191
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